

The Sun

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1887.

Advertisements for THE WEEKLY SUN, dated to-morrow morning, must be handed in this evening before six o'clock.

Addressing the President.

It is curious how much misinformation exists as to the proper title of the President of the United States. At Mr. CLEVELAND'S reception in Philadelphia Saturday he was addressed by various persons as "Mr. President," "Your Honor," "Your Highness," "Your Excellency," "General," "Governor," and "Sheriff."

Mr. President Mr. CLEVELAND is, and he has been Sheriff and Governor, although these two terms of honor may seem to have been lost in the larger title. But he has never been Lieutenant-Governor of Massachusetts, and so cannot be properly called His Honor, nor Governor of Massachusetts, and so cannot properly be styled His Excellency. It cannot be conceived that any American able to pound sand with a recipe in his pocket should call the President His Highness. It must have been some magnificent British tourist who applied that flattering unctious. As for the title of General, perhaps the Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy may reserve it, although he has never been called so, except by proxy, or commanded a brigade of militia. The President is as good as everybody else, and everybody in this land of the free may be a titular Major, Colonel, or General if he chooses to assume that style. Still, General is not the proper appellation of a President.

The dumpy and fummery with which the aristocratic Federates of old would have surrounded the office of President were happily avoided by the wise makers of the Constitution; but there are plenty of people who, some from ignorance and a few from instinctive ennoblement, insist upon addressing the President of the United States with titles which do not belong to him.

The New Pension Figures.

The current annual report of Commissioner BLACK to Secretary LAMAR is as remarkable a document as ever came from the Pension Office. It shows that during the last fiscal year, independently of 2,707 restorations of persons previously dropped, 55,194 new pensioners were added to the roll. This record of additions surpasses any known even during the years immediately following the civil war. Deducting the year's losses to the roll from deaths and other causes, the pension list now includes the unprecedented and enormous number of 426,007 names. Ten years ago, in 1877, the number of pensioners was 223,104, and had been decreasing steadily year after year for the preceding five years, according to the natural order of things. The following year, 1878, added 223,998 names on the roll, in continuation of that natural process. To-day, instead of finding fewer than 200,000 names there, as the result of constant diminutions by death, we find the roll, a quarter of a century after the close of the great war, mounting above 400,000, and the last year unparalleled for its increase.

Still more worthy of notice is the addition to the annual cost of pensions. Ten years ago the annual disbursement was \$28,580,167, to which point it had dropped from \$29,683,114 two years before, and \$30,593,748 the year before that. In the following year, as was natural, there was a still further reduction in disbursements to \$28,844,415. But during the last fiscal year, according to Gen. BLACK, there was an actual outlay of \$73,467,581, while for the present year the appropriation by Congress is \$75,701,350, and for the next year the Commissioner's estimates are \$78,000,000. Thus the annual cost of pensions has about tripled during the last ten years. The reason for this relative excess of cost over the great increase of numbers is to be found partly in the arrears art and partly in the increases of amounts payable on many classes of pensions.

It must not be imagined that this annual pension expenditure is a merely temporary one in its present shape. Commissioner BLACK's report shows that there will, at the end of the last fiscal year, 13,000 persons receiving pensions on account of the war of 1812, ended seventy-two years ago. It may be imagined, therefore, how far into the next century will extend the hundreds of thousands of pensions granted or to be granted for the far greater war that ended fifty years later than the conflict of 1812. During this last summer new pensioners have been granted to two widows of soldiers for service in the Revolutionary war, which ended 104 years ago. These figures are worth considering by the people, and especially by the members of the Fifty-fifth Congress.

What Did the Manifesto of the Count of Paris Mean?

The question which for some days has been most anxiously discussed by the European press is not what the Count of Paris said in his appeal to France, but why he chose the present moment for publishing his programme. Considered as an argumentative instrument of the royalist propaganda, the manifesto seems to have had but little effect on any section of the French people except the Bonapartists; but may it not derive some extrinsic importance from the date at which it is put forth, and certain coincident events of ostensible significance? In itself the monarchy outlined by the Pretender may not seem to Frenchmen particularly tempting; but might they not look with different eyes on a temporary change in their form of government, if they believed it to involve a pledge of the Czar's alliance and a bright prospect of regaining Alsace-Lorraine? Bismarck prevailed upon his countrymen to defer their efforts for political liberty until after the establishment of German unity; may not Frenchmen also be persuaded to care less about the name and form of civil institutions than for national reconciliation?

Stable investigation of the ANNA correspondence, it has been well known that Bismarck deems it the capital aim of German diplomacy to avert the restoration of monarchy in France. His mouthpieces in the press have repeatedly declared that the triumph of the Orleanist reaction would almost certainly be followed by a renewal of war upon the Rhine, because the displacement of the present type of government by one less dependent on the shifting will of parliamentary majorities would enable France to offer Russia trustworthy guarantees of loyal and unwavering adherence to a concerted plan of action. Nor can it be denied that since the French army has been making so close an approach to a high standard of efficiency, whereas the Austro-Hungarian military system remains glaringly defective, grave doubts have been felt as to the power of Germany and Austria, even with Italy thrown in the scale as a make-weight to balance the joint strength of

France and Russia. Such a contest would at all events be a war of Titans, in which not merely Alsace-Lorraine but the whole left bank of the Rhine and the existence of German unity might be staked upon the issue. For, added as are the present masters of the storied river to proclaiming that their Gallic neighbors "shall never have it, the free, the German Rhine," the French on their part have not yet forgotten the rejoinder of DE MOULIER: "Your German Rhine has been overthrown, and it may be ours again!"

Now, suppose that, simultaneously with the appearance of the Orleanist manifesto, measures were taken to give Frenchmen of eminence in the army, the judiciary, and the Legislature assurances, on which they could place absolute reliance, that the Czar would put the mighty resources of his empire at their disposal for the retrieval of their national renown and the redemption of their lost provinces, if they would consent to try the monarchical experiment suggested by the Count of PARIS. Is it certain that French patriots, and, above all, French soldiers, would turn their backs on such an offer? That is a question which may well be debated with deep magnifying at Berlin, seeing that there is reason to believe that the Czar, when he visits his father-in-law's court, which is a hotbed of Orleanist intrigue, may have been led to make a conditional promise like that just mentioned. It is the dread of such an overture, coupled with the knowledge that the expected interview between the Czar and Kaiser WILLIAM at Stettin did not take place, and that BISMARCK has since felt it needful to hold a personal conference with Count KALNOGY, the Austro-Hungarian Prime Minister; it is such coincidences, real or suspected, which have disposed German newspapers to take a more serious view of the French Pretender's manifesto than has yet been taken by the Paris press, or than the text of the document seems to justify.

One Hundred Years Ago.

Americans to-day, accustomed to feel the benefits as well as to sound the praises of the Constitution with which they live, are not apt to appreciate the difficulties under which that instrument was framed, or the risks it ran of being rejected after all.

The Philadelphia Convention of 1787 was a scene of constant struggle between opposing ideas and theories, and much that came out of it was the result of compromise. The voting by States gave greater opportunities for deadlocks, and, while the enormous evils of the existing Articles of Confederation were felt on all hands, the best method to escape from them was hard to determine. Rhode Island stood aloof altogether from the Convention, and New Hampshire's delegates came after the proceedings had begun. Although the 3d of May was the day fixed for assembling, and until the 25th was a quorum present. Struggles over State sovereignty and over the proposed representation in the future law-making body in ratio to population began at once. One ballot of six to five among the eleven States at that time voting shows how close was the division upon the question of allowing the House of Representatives to be made up according to population; and the establishment of the Senate, with its equal representation by States, was absolutely necessary to secure adhesion to the new system.

This is one example of the many obstacles encountered; and in the midst of them WASHINGTON, who had happily been made the presiding officer, wrote thus in a personal letter:

"Everybody wishes, everybody expects something from the Convention; but what will be the result of its deliberation the book of fate must disclose. While the local views of each State, and separate interests, are so numerous, and the views of the whole are so different, it is not surprising that the Convention is so long in coming to a decision. It is not surprising that the Convention is so long in coming to a decision. It is not surprising that the Convention is so long in coming to a decision."

When, at last, the great work was done, and well done, another element of doubt as to whether the States accept the new Constitution? Might it not suffer the fate of the Plan of Union of 1754, which had been agreed to by the Albany Convention and completely rejected by the colonies? The language of the explanatory report submitted to Congress on the memorable 17th of September, 1787, together with the proposed Constitution that day signed, was dignified, but by no means triumphant. The first ratification, little Delaware's, came within two months, Dec. 7, 1787, followed before the close of the year by the like determinations of Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Anxious eyes were turned toward the influential States of Virginia, New York, and Massachusetts. The ratification of Massachusetts was secured by a very small majority in her convention, and New York and Virginia ratified only after the requisite nine ratifications had been secured. It was a little more than nine months after the signing of the Constitution that it became binding on the number of States prescribed. North Carolina and Rhode Island did not furnish their ratifications until after the Government had gone into full operation, with WASHINGTON inaugurated as President.

Mr. Cleveland Can't Help the Women.

While the President was receiving citizens in the Philadelphia City Hall on Saturday, Mrs. LILLIE DEXTER BLAKE of New York took the opportunity to thrust into his hand a printed protest or declaration. This document is addressed to "the President of the United States, the Governors of the States, and other Federal and State officials," and it is signed by Miss SUSAN B. ANTHONY and the other officers of the National Woman Suffrage Association. The protest of the women is directed against that interpretation of the Constitution which denies the ballot to citizens of their sex. It contains an able argument to show that this is a Government of the people, and that women are people. "In the midst of the pomp and glories of this celebration," says the protest, "women are only onlookers, voiceless and unrepresented." "The recital of these facts is the summary of a century of injustice. We solemnly and earnestly protest against its continuance, and demand that hereafter the Constitution of these United States shall be interpreted in accordance with the simple words in which it is framed."

What can Mr. CLEVELAND do to help the woman suffragists? It is not his function to interpret the Constitution. It is not his function to make laws to give effect to constitutional provisions. Even if he were disposed to promote the cause which these ladies have at heart, he would be practically powerless to aid them. What could he do? Recommend to Congress the extension of the elective franchise to the gentler sex? Well, and what then? What can Congress do for them? Certainly it cannot pass laws prescribing the qualifications of voters in the several States. Congress might propose and submit to the States for ratification a constitutional amendment establishing woman suffrage; but these ladies say that no amendment is necessary. They say that for a hundred years the women of the United States have been unjustly deprived of rights which

are guaranteed in the Constitution as it was framed a century ago.

These appeals should go, not to Washington, but to the Legislatures of the States. Even in those Territories where woman suffrage is a fact, it exists not by virtue of any act of Congress, but by vote of the Territorial Legislatures. The State capitals are the battlefields where the leaders of the woman's rights cause ought to take their position and press out their ammunition. They are waiting time in presenting appeals to Mr. CLEVELAND or to Congress.

The only aspect of the woman suffrage movement at the present time which looks at all encouraging for the political emancipation of the sex is the zeal with which the prohibitionists are taking up the cause. The influence of the Woman Christian Temperance Union is counting for more than the life-long efforts of the patient, persistent ladies who for years have been inditing protests, and making personal appeals in the wrong quarter. The close partnership between prohibition and woman suffrage is one of the most remarkable phenomena in contemporary politics.

An Interesting Indication.

If anybody outside of New York, or inside either for that matter, supposes that everything is going on as of old in the Democratic politics of this Commonwealth, he is indulging in a mistaken hypothesis. Of Democratic citizens there is a very large body—and we use a mild expression in this phrase—who do not intend that GOVERNOR CLEVELAND shall be nominated for the second term with the cooperation of the State of New York. Though they have not been making any disturbance about their purpose, they have kept it in mind; and at the proper time it will receive appropriate manifestation.

For instance, at a Democratic caucus held in the city of Rochester last week, after the election of delegates to the Assembly District Convention, the following resolution, as we learn from the *Rochester Morning Herald*, was adopted without opposition:

"Resolved, That the Democratic electors of the Fifth ward endorse the administration of the Hon. David B. Hall, Governor of the State of New York, and commend him as our first choice for the Presidency of the United States in 1892."

It will be found, we think, that there are a great many Democrats not only in Monroe county but in other parts who entertain the same sentiments and the same purpose as are expressed in the above resolution. There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio, than are dreamt of in your philosophy.

The Massachusetts Democrats hold their Convention at Worcester to-day, and unless a sudden attack of dumbness seizes upon some of their most active leaders, there will be interesting, pointed, and pugnacious speeches. A nipping anti-Mugwump wind is blowing in from the North, and the Republicans will find it hard to keep the Democrats in their warm places in the Custom House much longer.

War between this Commonwealth and New Jersey is now forever averted, and Peace lays bare the rocky edges of her smile to gladden State and Nation. The Boundary Commission appointed by the Governor of New York and the Governor of New Jersey has fixed the line between State and the shore of New Jersey. An equal subaqueous territory is given to each State, and hostilities between their oystermen will now cease. May no wild fancy has been made by a rival hand, that occasion, as the Boundary Commission appointed by the Governor of New York and the Governor of New Jersey has fixed the line between State and the shore of New Jersey. An equal subaqueous territory is given to each State, and hostilities between their oystermen will now cease. May no wild fancy has been made by a rival hand, that occasion, as the Boundary Commission appointed by the Governor of New York and the Governor of New Jersey has fixed the line between State and the shore of New Jersey. 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